

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SOFIA 00762 181524Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SR-02

ORM-01 VO-03 SCA-01 AID-05 OPR-02 A-01 SY-05 EURE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9485

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, PROP, VS, BU

SUBJECT: HARSH CRITICISM OF US ACTIONS IN VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA

USINFO FOR IOP/M; USIA FOR IEE, IBS/PE, IOP

1. SUMMARY: GOOD DEAL OF CROWING IN THE BULGARIAN PRESS ABOUT DEFEATS OF US-SUPPORTED REGIMES IN CAMBODIA AND VIETNAM. GOVT IS COVERING ITSELF HOWEVER BY HAVING FRONT ORGANIZATION MAKE MOST OFFENSIVE COMMENTS (E.G., ON "ABDUCTION" OF VIETNAMESE ORPHANS) AND NOT FULLY REPORTING THEM IN MASS MEDIA. THERE IS ENOUGH OFFENSIVE MATERIAL IN PRESS, HOWEVER, TO JUSTIFY STATEMENT AT AMBASSADOR'S NEXT MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER THAT WE ARE CAREFULLY WATCHING THESE COMMENTS WHICH DO NOT CONTRIBUTE TO THE IMPROVEMENT OF RELATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. PRESS APRIL 18 CARRIED SIGNED COLUMNS DEROGATORY TOWARDS US IN CONNECTION WITH FALL OF PHNOM PENH. BCP PARTY ORGAN RABOTNICHESKO DELO STATED, "ONE MILLION CASUALTIES -- THIS IS THE BALANCE OF THE FIVE-YEAR WAR STARTED BY LON NOL AND HIS CLIQUE, WHO TURNED INTO DOCILE TOOLS OF  
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PAGE 02 SOFIA 00762 181524Z

AMERICAN IMPERIALISM AND ITS ASPIRATION TO PLAY THE ROLE

OF WORLD GENDARME. THE TIME HAS COME NOW FOR THE PHNOM  
PENH PUPPETS AND THEIR TRANSATLANTIC PROTECTORS TO PAY  
FOR THEIR ANTI-PEOPLE'S POLICY".

3. TRUD RAN PICTURE OF AMBASSADOR DEAN CARRYING  
AMERICAN FLAG IN PLASTIC BAG AND COMMENTED THAT EVACUATION  
FROM PHNOM PENH "IS BEING EVALUATED IN WASHINGTON AS  
BRILLIANT. LET US WISH THEM MORE SUCH OPERATIONS. BUT  
IF DEAN WERE NOT IN SUCH A HURRY, IF HE COULD HAVE LOOKED  
BACK, HE WOULD HAVE SEEN THE STATE OF WILDERNESS IN WHICH  
THE US WAS LEAVING THIS ONETIME FLOURISHING COUNTRY,  
WHERE THE CIA MADE CONSECUTIVE COUPS. ...AND END HAS BEEN  
PUT TO ANOTHER ADVENTURE OF AMERICAN IMPERIALISM".

4. OTECHESTVEN FRONT COLUMN SAID, "IN THE ILLUSIVE  
PURSUIT OF A MILITARY VICTORY IN VIETNAM, THE US DID  
NOT STOP SHORT OF ANYTHING. THE LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT  
OF PRINCE NORODOM SIHANOUK WAS ELIMINATED ...JUST  
BECAUSE OF PURELY TACTICAL OPERATIONAL TASKS -- TO  
STRIKE FROM THE REAR THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE LIBERATION  
FORCES IN THE DELTA OF THE MEKONG RIVER...." NARODNA  
MLADEZH CONCLUDED, "THE LIBERATION OF CAMBODIA IS A  
DEFEAT OF THE IMPERIALIST COURSE FOLLOWED BY THE  
MILITARIST CIRCLES IN THE US AND AT THE SAME TIME IS  
A GRAVE WARNING OF THE UNAVOIDABLE FAILURE OF THEIR  
ADVENTUROUS POLICY IN SOUTH VIETNAM, IN INDOCHINA AND  
THROUGHOUT SOUTHEAST ASIA".

5. BULGARIAN COMMITTEE FOR SOLIDARITY WITH VIETNAM  
ISSUED DECLARATION APRIL 15. SANITIZED SUMMARY WAS  
CARRIED IN PRESS FOLLOWING DAY BUT FULL COPY WAS  
DELIVERED TO EMBASSY APRIL 17. PURPORTING TO SPEAK  
FOR "BULGARIAN PEOPLE", DECLARATION GREETED "WITH  
DELIGHT" VICTORIES OVER "CORRUPT SAIGON CLIQUE" AND  
CONDEMNED "ABDUCTION" OF SOUTH VIETNAMESE ORPHANS TO  
US. DECLARATION INSISTED ON IMMEDIATE END TO EVACUATION  
OF ORPHANS, CESSATION OF ALL MILITARY AID TO SAIGON, AND  
"STRICT OBSERVANCE OF PARIS ACCORDS".

6. PRESS REPORTS THAT PRG AMBASSADOR IN INTERVIEW WITH  
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PAGE 03 SOFIA 00762 181524Z

JOURNALISTS APRIL 16 CALLED ON US TO STOP MILITARY  
SUPPORT OF "SAIGON PUPPET REGIME" AND CLARIFIED PRG  
DECLARATION AGAINST "FORCIBLE EVACUATION OF SOUTH  
VIETNAMESE POPULATION AND AGAINST INTENSIFICATION OF  
US MILITARY COMMITMENT AND INTERFERENCE IN SOUTH VIETNAM".

7. COMMENT: AS EXPECTED BULGARIANS ARE GLOATING  
ABOUT US DISCOMFITURE IN SEA AND TRUMPETING VICTORIES

OF THEIR FRIENDS. THAT STATEMENT BY PRG AMBASSADOR  
WOULD BE WIDELY REPORTED ALSO NORMAL; BUT THERE IS  
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HAILING THE SUCCESSES OF COMMUNISTS  
AND CONCOMITANT DEFEATS OF OUR FRIENDS, AND SLINGING  
MUD AT THE US. WE ARE WATCHING THESE COMMENTS VERY  
CAREFULLY AND WHEN AMBASSADOR NEXT SEES FOREIGN  
MINISTER INTEND, UNLESS DEPARTMENT PERCEIVES OBJECTION,  
TO CALL ATTENTION TO THAT DIFFERENCE, AND TO FACT THAT SUCH  
COMMENTS ARE NOT CONTRIBUTING TO AN IMPROVEMENT IN  
RELATIONS WITH US.  
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